



Urban
Economic
Development
Association
of Wisconsin,
Inc.

July 29, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Commission Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street NW
CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: Proceeding 03-167; Application of SBC to Provide In-Region, InterLATA
Services Pursuant to Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996**

Dear Secretary Dortch:

We are writing to express our support for SBC's application to offer long distance voice and data services in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio.

As a nonprofit membership association committed to economic development, we believe that competition is an important stimulus for jobs, businesses and additional technological and other infrastructure investments. Our members include non-profit groups, public agencies and for-profit corporations, as well as individuals, committed to community development.

As a customer of SBC for local service, and as an active member of Wisconsin's business community, Urban Economic Development Association of Wisconsin, Inc. would benefit from more competition for long distance services. Over the past five years, we have had several long distance providers. We would welcome SBC's competition for our business.

If SBC were able to compete in the long-distance market, there would be more options for us and other Wisconsin organizations, businesses and individuals as consumers and most likely would reduce costs in the long run. In addition, competition increases the quality for service to consumers.

Urban Economic Development Association of Wisconsin, Inc. (UEDA) wants the opportunity to procure all of our services for local, long distance and data for a single source in the interests of efficiency.

In addition, UEDA is concerned about current economic conditions and believes that SBC's entry into this market will increase investment and jobs in the Midwest region. SBC is a major economic driver in Wisconsin through its tax base and workforce. We are confident that this will only increase through the full competition for telecommunications services.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 414-225-0550. We look forward to expanding our relationship with SBC.

Sincerely,

Karen Gotzler
President & CEO

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